



Structural Optimization for Blast Mitigation Using HCA

University of Notre Dame

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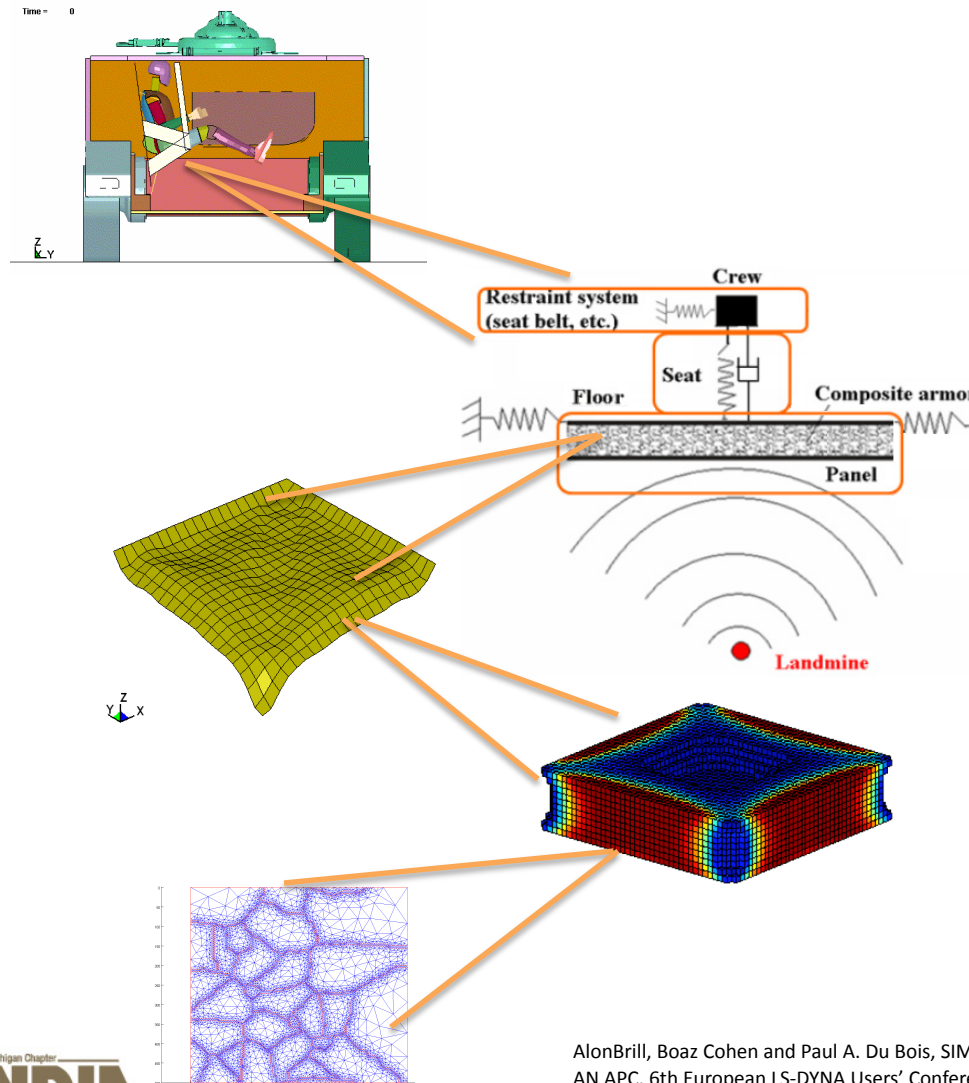
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Introduction: Design For Blast Mitigation

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- The blast mitigation design problem can be reduced sub problems as given
- Each reduction in problem formulation feeds back into the system above
- Design objectives for each sub problem are selected with the overall problem in mind
- Vehicle
 - Design for crew and critical component survivability
- Sub System
 - Design for mechanical isolation between occupant and blast
- Component
 - Design for minimum energy transfer from blast wave
- Sub Component
 - Design for energy dissipation and distribution
- Microstructure
 - Define damage and material parameters for energy absorption

Alon Brill, Boaz Cohen and Paul A. Du Bois, SIMULATION OF A MINE BLAST EFFECT ON THE OCCUPANTS OF AN APC. 6th European LS-DYNA Users' Conference

Introduction: Injury Criterion

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- **Injury criteria of vehicle occupants** due to mechanical input taken as **the design objective** of the vehicle design problem
- Blast impulse is key the metric which drives injury occurrences
- Compressive forces and vertical acceleration taken to be defining factor in injury accumulation

HYBRID III Simulant Response Parameter	Symbol (units)	Assessment Reference Values
Head Injury Criteria	HIC	750 ~5% risk of brain injury
Head resultant acceleration	A (G)	150 G (2ms)
Neck forward flexion moment	+ My (N-m)	190 N-m
Neck rearward extension moment	- My (N-m)	57 N-m
Chest resultant acceleration	A (G)	60 G (3ms), 40 G (7ms)
Lumbar spine axial compression force	Fz (N)	3800 N (30ms), 6672 N (0ms)
Lumbar spine flexion moment	+ My (N-m)	1235 N-m
Lumbar spine extension moment	- My (N-m)	370 N-m
Pelvis vertical acceleration	Az (G)	15, 18, 23 G (low, med, high risk)
Tibia axial compressive force	F (N)	$F/F_c - M/M_c < 1$
combined with Tibia bending moment	M (N-m)	where $F_c=35,584\text{N}$ and $M_c=225\text{N-m}$
Femur or Tibia axial compression force	Fz (N)	7562 N (10ms), 9074 N (0ms)

Occupant Crash Protection Handbook for Tactical Ground Vehicles 2000

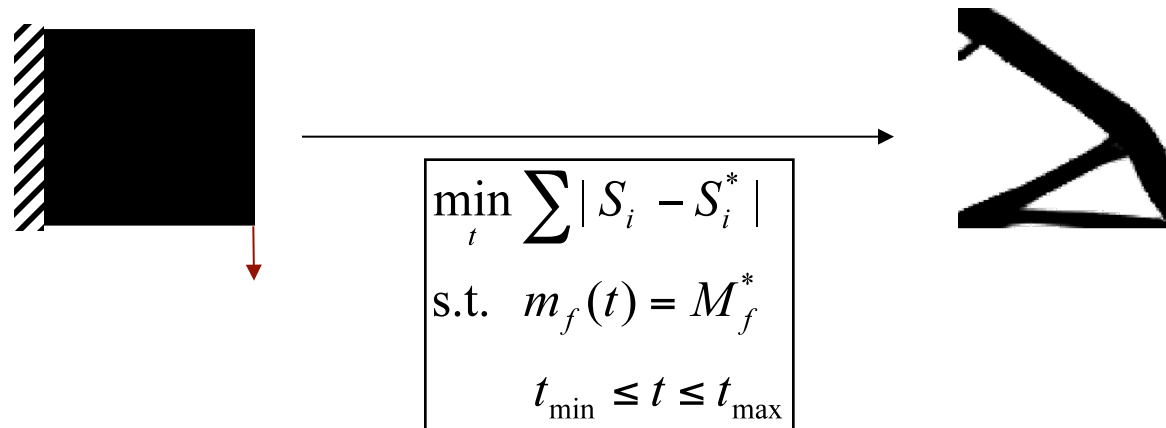
Ala Tabieia and Gaurav Nilakantan, Reduction of Acceleration Induced Injuries from Mine Blasts under Infantry Vehicles University of Cincinnati

HCA Overview: Topology Optimization

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- Topology optimization process redistributes material in the design domain to obtain a concept design
- Hybrid Cellular Automata (HCA) algorithm using uniform ***internal energy density*** as a design objective
- Nonlinear transient analysis, utilizing LS-Dyna for finite element analysis (FEA)



Topology optimization to generate concept designs

HCA Overview: Algorithm

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- A continuum-based topology optimization
 - First utilized for bone remodeling (Tovar'04)
 - Extend bone remodeling technique for crashworthiness design (Patel'07)
- **HCA = Cellular Automata (CA) + FEM**
- CAs are characterized by local interactions

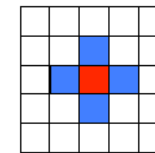
Global Formulation

find \underline{x}
s.t. $\underline{h}(\underline{x}) = \underline{0}$
 $\underline{g}(\underline{x}) \leq \underline{0}$
 $\underline{H}(\underline{x}) = \underline{0}$
 $\underline{G}(\underline{x}) \leq \underline{0}$
 $x_i \in \{0, 1\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$

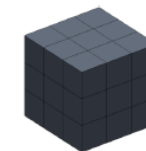
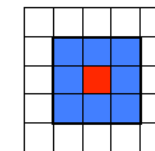
Local Formulation

find x_i
s.t. $y_i(x_i) - y^* = 0$
 $x_i \in \{0, 1\},$

Neighborhoods



vonNeumann (2D: $N=4$, 3D: $N=6$)



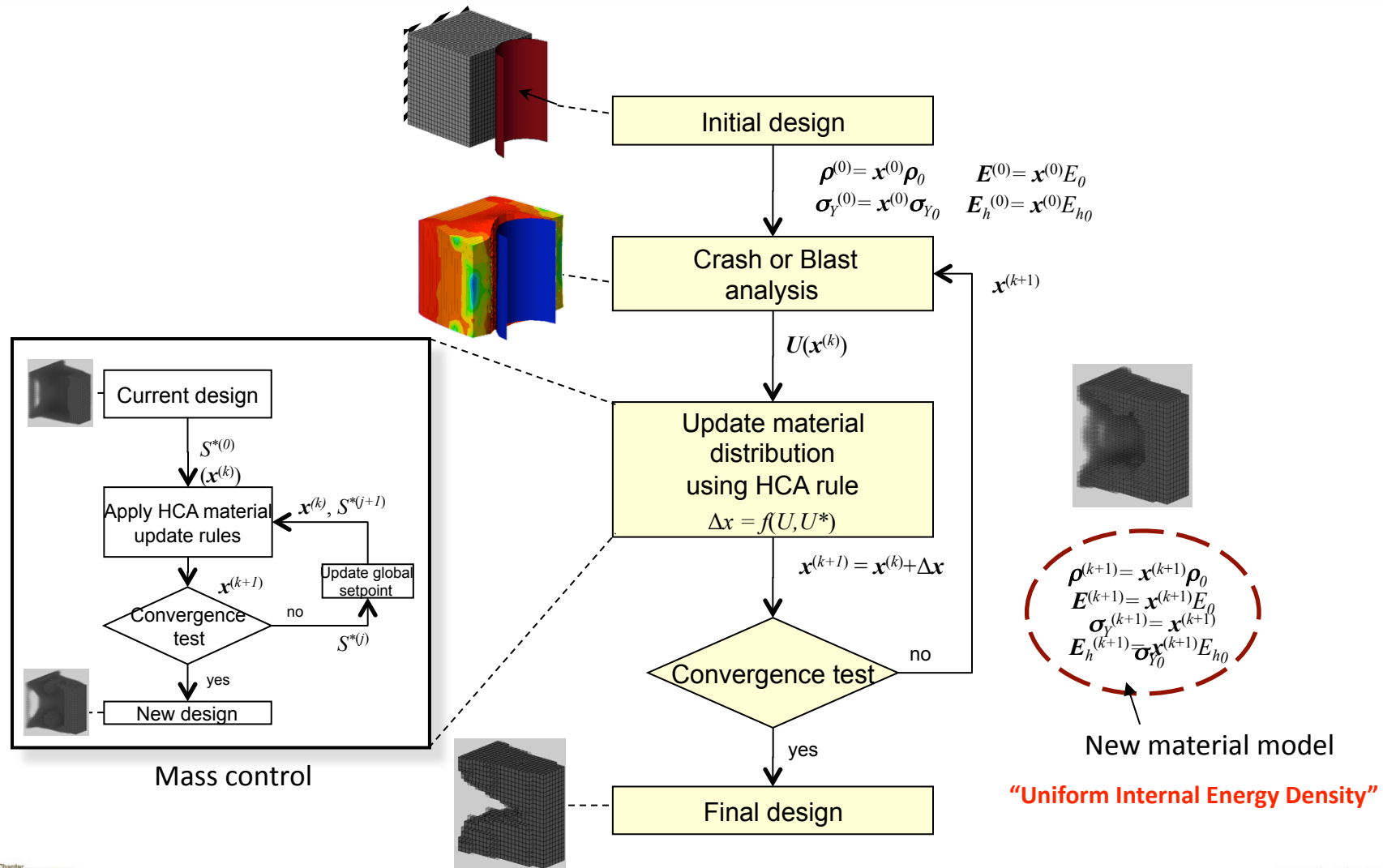
Moore (2D: $N=8$, 3D: $N=26$)

Local CA rules and basic control theory
is used to distribute material

HCA Overview: Algorithm

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Modification of HCA for Blast: Field Variable Selection

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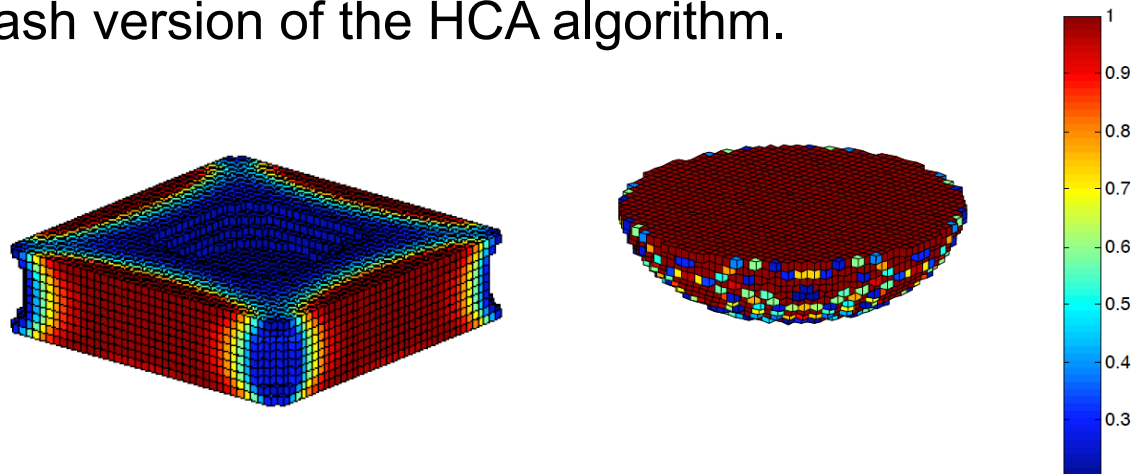


- Field Variable:

- Original crashHCA algorithm only utilized Internal Energy (IE) at the final time step
 - IE at the final time is highly dependent on the simulation termination time**
 - Resulting topology is drastically different depending on the selected end time
- Changed method for blast to use the IE at all time steps.

$$S_i = \int_{t=0}^{t=t_f} U_i(t) dt,$$

- Will utilize the concept of a fully stressed design as implemented in the Crash version of the HCA algorithm.



Modification of HCA for Blast: Johnson-Cook Material Model

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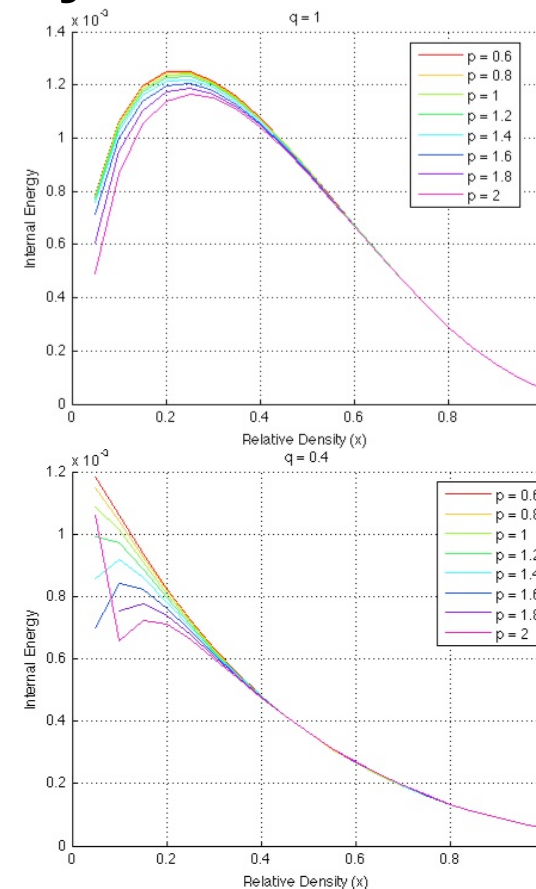


Material Card Selection

- Piecewise-linear elastic plastic material card:
 - Quasi-static
 - Hardening
 - Plastic deformation
- Johnson-Cook:
 - Can be used for dynamic loading situations
 - Strain rate effects
 - Temperature effects

$$E = E_0 x^p \text{ and } G = G_0 x^p$$
$$\sigma = [A + B \epsilon^n][1 + C \ln \dot{\epsilon}][1 - T^{*m}]$$
$$A = A_0 x^q, \quad B = B_0 x^q, \quad C = C_0 x^q$$

Johnson-Cook: Effect of density on Internal Energy



Modification of HCA for Blast: CONWEP Blast Model

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- Load Type:
 - Began using the **CONWEP** algorithm for the blast model in the 3-D solid element HCA method.
 - Quick Analysis time (relative to MMALE)
 - Required minimal changes to the HCA algorithm
 - The objective is to design substructure that responds to a blast event in a desired manner. CONWEP can be used in this scenario since we are only looking at the response of a small piece of structure rather than the whole object.

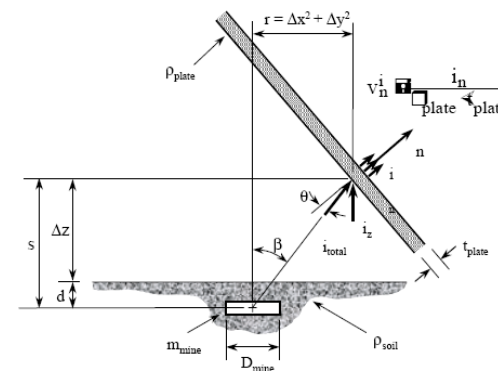
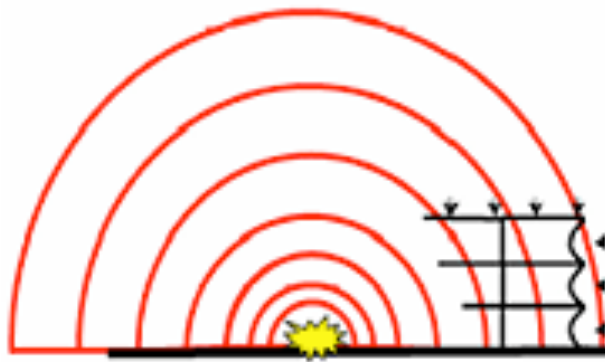


Figure 1. Definition of variables in the US Army TACOM Impulse Model
(Adapted from Westine *et al.*, 1985).

Implementation

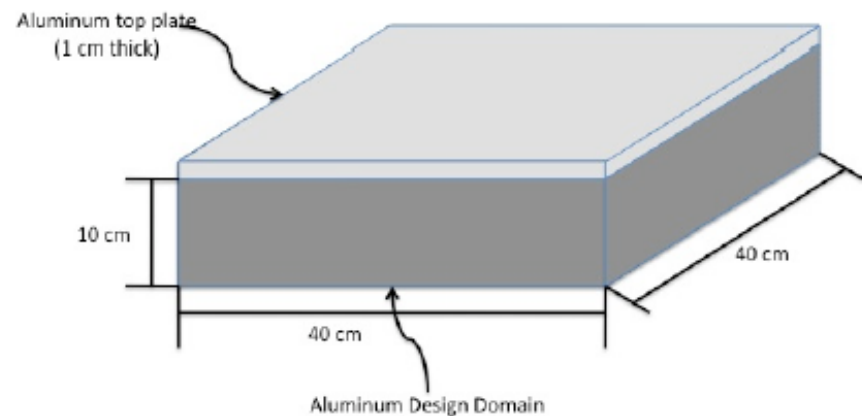
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As a proof of concept, a rectangular design domain was created to represent a piece of armor.

- Design domain is 40 x 40 x 10 cm aluminum (represents armor substructure)
- Top layer is 40 x 40 x 1 cm ceramic (represents ceramic top plate)
- Domain and top plate have fixed x, y, and z displacement boundary conditions on all sides.
- Blast is positioned 100 cm up from origin (89 cm from top center of plate)
- Hourglass control is included to help prevent complex sound speeds arising in low density elements
- The target mass is set to be 50% of a full design domain

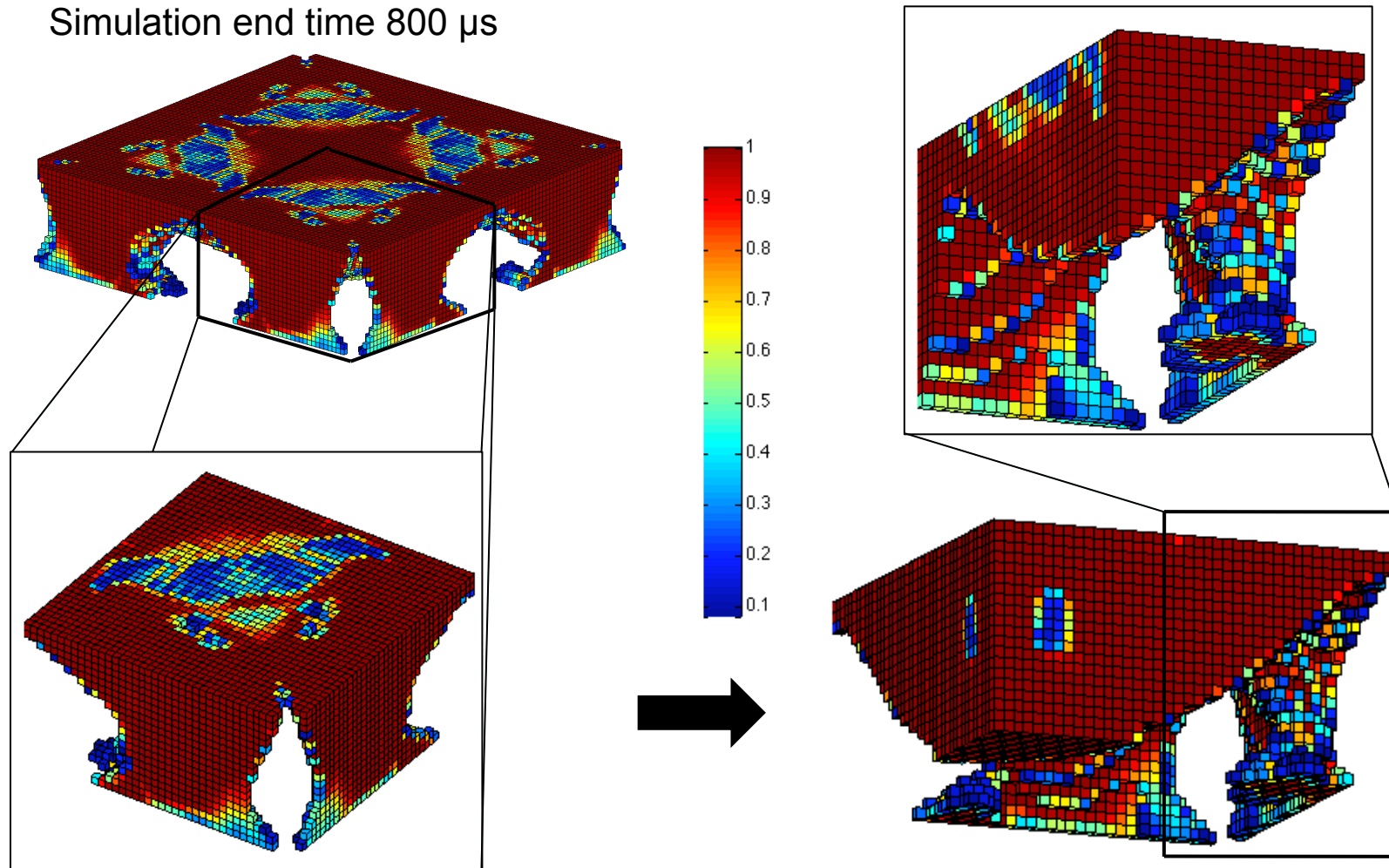


- Generated Topology to be compared against a baseline model that is full density, but half as thick.
- The top of the baseline design will be 94 cm from the blast source (i.e. the base of the domain will be the same distance in both cases)

Results: Integrated IE Objective

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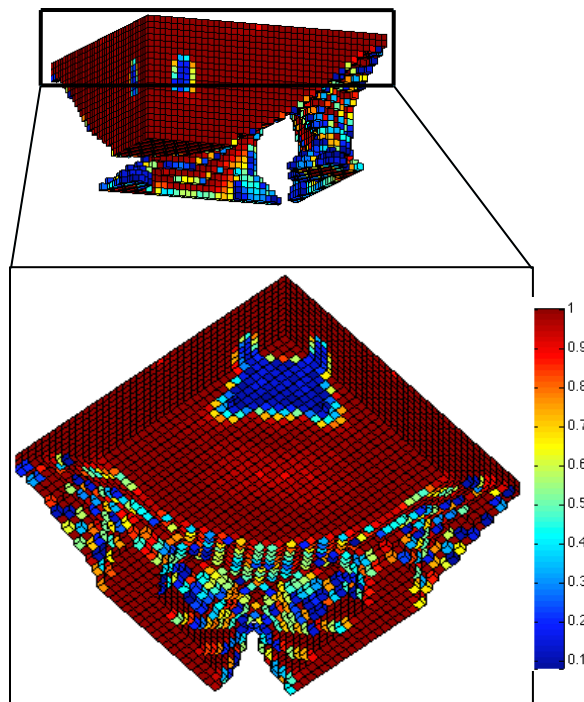
- Model mesh size to 0.5 cm (a symmetric quarter of the domain was run)
- Simulation end time 800 μ s



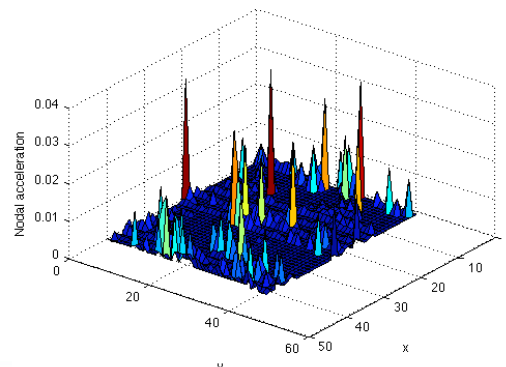
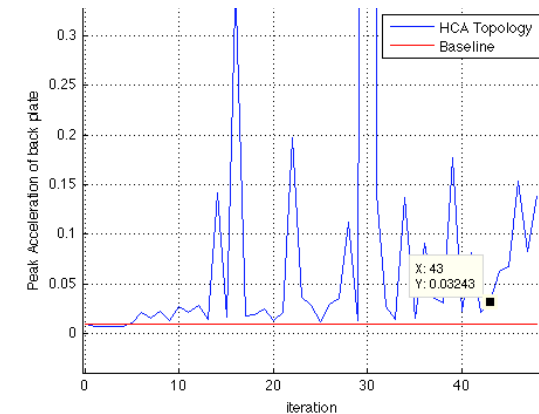
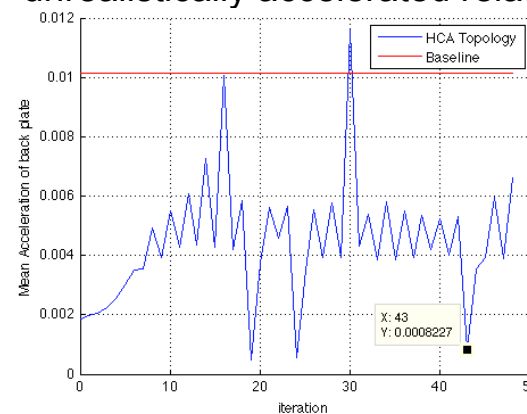
Results: Integrated IE Objective

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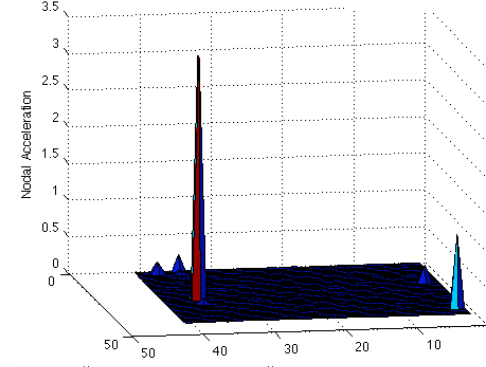
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- Resulting topology has mass where it would be expected and satisfies the mass target constraint.
- There is an order of magnitude improvement in the mean nodal acceleration of the bottom of the design domain versus the baseline case.
- Peak acceleration is misleading because of nodes that are being unrealistically accelerated relative to their neighbors



Acceleration Profile of iteration 43



Acceleration Profile of iteration 30



Final Remarks

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- This investigation showed that the HCA algorithm could be modified to produce topologies that help to mitigate the acceleration transferred to the occupant from a blast loading
- Future work:
 - Investigate further the use of IE as the field variable in the optimization process
 - Investigation of other field variables to drive the optimization that are more appropriately related to acceleration
 - Mesh refinement study
 - Continued work to improve convergence and to mitigate errors in the LS-DYNA runs (i.e. complex sound speeds arising in low density elements)



Questions?

Acknowledgments:

This research was performed under government contract from the US Army TARDEC, through a subcontract with Mississippi State University, for the Simulation Based Reliability and Safety (SimBRS) research program.



Backup

Verification of Monotonic Relationship between SED and Mass Density

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- The Piecewise-linear elastic-plastic model was shown by Dr. Patel¹ to have a monotonic relationship between SED and mass density under the SIMP penalization method
- A similar study was conducted to determine if penalizing the Johnson-Cook model also yielded a monotonic relationship between SED and mass density.
 - Setup as a single solid LS-DYNA cube element under a rapid fixed loading
- As in the standard SIMP scheme, elastic modulus (and shear modulus) is penalized according to:
 - Mass and penalization factors are varied.

$$E = E_0 x^p \text{ and } G = G_0 x^p$$

- Johnson-Cook model calculates a von-mises flow stress according to:

$$\sigma = [A + B \epsilon^n][1 + C \ln \dot{\epsilon}][1 - T^{*m}]$$

- Penalizing this von-mises flow stress is akin to penalizing the yield stress. This is done by penalizing the parameters A , B , and C .

Johnson-Cook Material Model: Penalization

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- As in the standard SIMP scheme, elastic modulus (and shear modulus) is penalized according to:

$$E = E_0 x^p \text{ and } G = G_0 x^p$$

- The Johnson-Cook model calculates a von-mises flow stress according to.

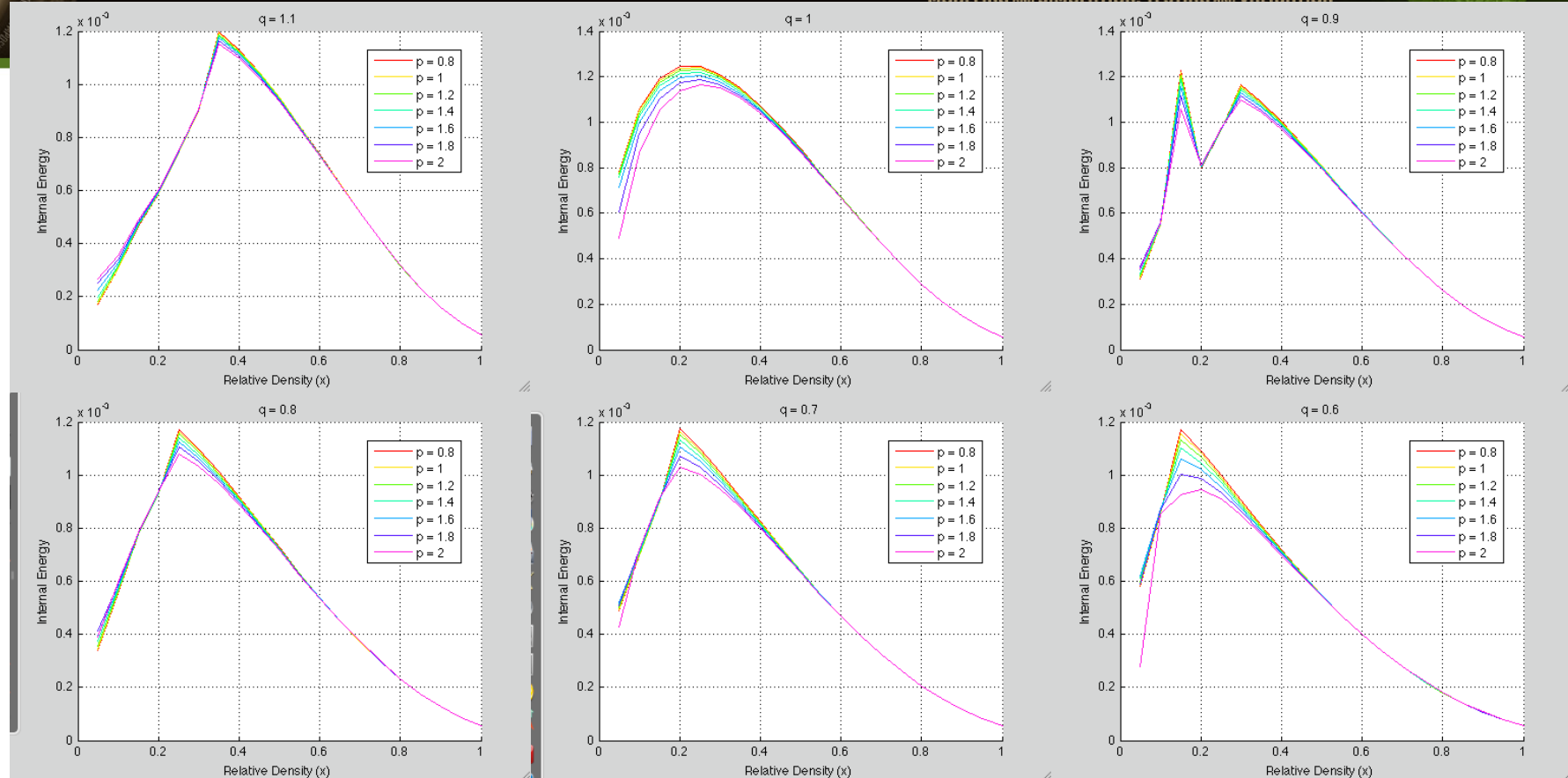
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Johnson-Cook Material Model: Fixed Load

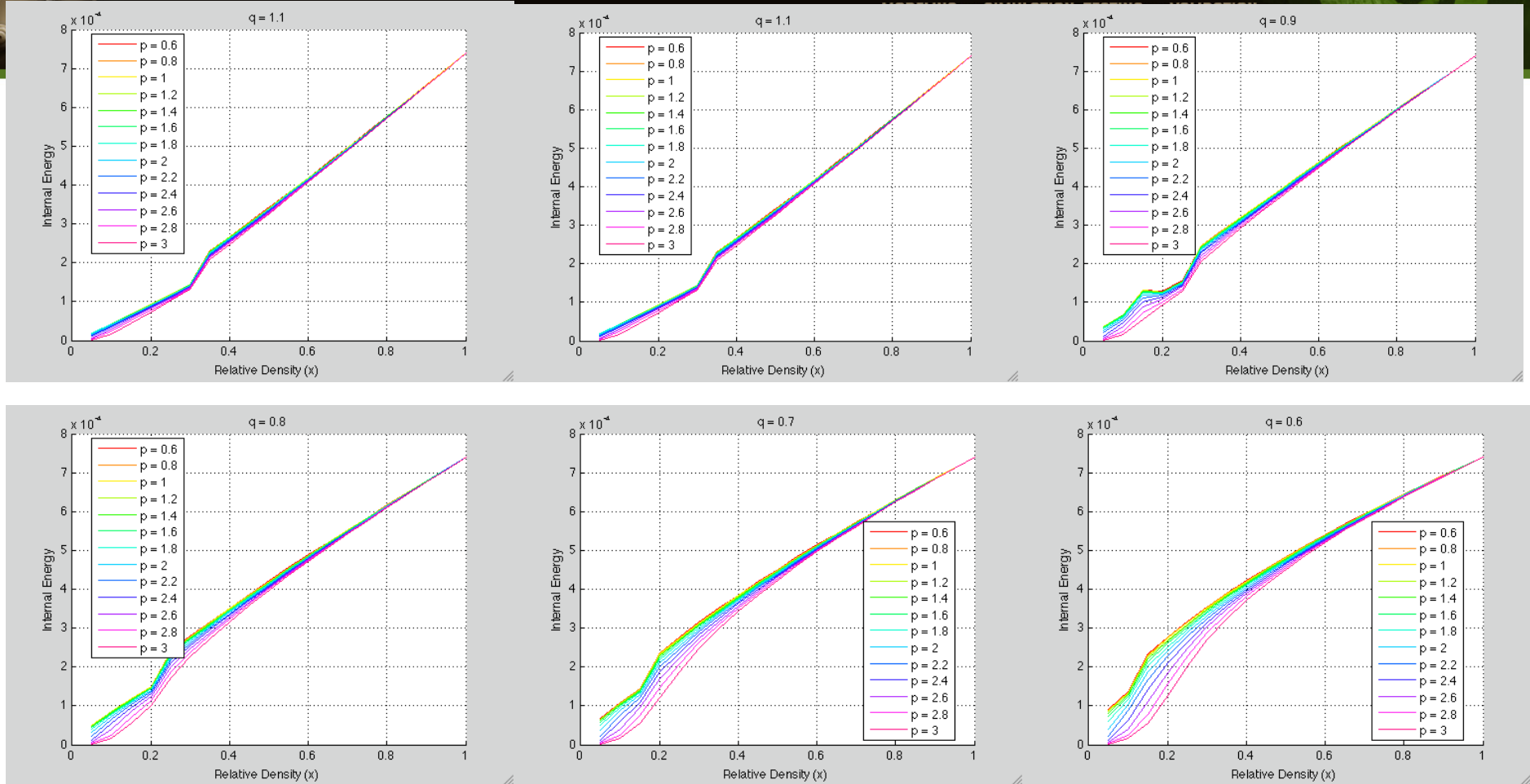
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- Under a constant load, the material does not behave monotonically under any penalization scheme
- Depending on choice of p and q , we may have to significantly increase the minimum density allowed in the CA and FE models

Johnson-Cook Material Model: Fixed Displacement



- Under fixed displacement the IED appears to have a monotonic relationship with relative density
- Blast loadings, however, are not fixed displacement problems.

Modification of HCA for Blast: CONWEP Blast Model

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- CONWEP blast model: Load-Blast function in Ls-Dyna, is an implementation of the hemispherical blast models of Kingery and Bulmash.
- Empirical blast-loading model rather than explicitly simulating the progress of the shock wave from the high explosive through the air and its interaction with the structure
- Does not account for pressure confinement properties provided by imbedding explosive charge in soil.
- Scaling charge sizes for better agreement accepted, but applications to complete structures limited due to improperly modeled load distributions
- More complex structures and interaction of detonation products and debris requires a more sophisticated fluid structure formulation.

$$P(\tau) = P_r \cdot \cos^2 \theta + P_i \cdot (1 + \cos^2 \theta - 2 \cos \theta)$$



Agenda

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- Introduction
- Overview of Hybrid Cellular Automata (HCA)
- Methodology
 - Field Variable
 - Material Model
 - Blast Model
- Implementation
- Results